GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Registration & Stamps – Allegation of tearing and tampering of records against staff of Registrar Office (OB), Rajamahendravaram – Disciplinary action initiated against Sri K.S.Rama Rao, Office Subordinate – Inquiry – Charge proved – Penalty of 3 Annual Grade Increments with cumulative effect – Imposed – Charged Officer retired – Punishment not implemented – Case re-examined – Punishment modified - Penalty of 9% cut in pension permanently under Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980 - Imposed - Orders – Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILANCE.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.497 **Dated:16-04-2019**

Read the following:-

1.DR, R&S, Rajahmundry Lr.No.G1/368/2014, dt:30-5-2014.
2.DIG, R&S, KDA Lr.No.X/388/2014, dt:09-12-2014 & 30-09-2015.
3.DIG, R&S, KDA Charge Memo No.X/388/2014-1, dt.28-11-2014.
4.WSD of Sri K.S.Rama Rao, Office Sub-Ordinate, dated 25-11-2014.
5.G.O.Rt.No.1211, Rev (Vig.II) Deptt., dt:27-11-2015.
6.G.O.Rt.No.1212, Rev (Vig.II) Deptt., dt:27-11-2015.
7.G.O.Rt.No.1328, Rev (Vig.II) Deptt., dt:31-12-2015.
8.DIG, R&S, Kakinada, Lr.No.X/388/2014-2, dt:01-10-2016.
9.Govt., Memo No.36555/Vig.II(1)/2014-5, dt:10-01-2017.
10.Rep.of Sri K.S.Rama Rao, Office Sub-Ordinate,dt.16-2-2017.
11.Govt., Lr.No.36555/Vig.II(1)/2014-6, dated 13-06-2017.
12.APPSC, Lr.No.511/DC&C/1/2017, dt:12-07-2017.
13.G.O.Rt.No.961, Rev (Vig.II) Deptt., dated 14-09-2017.
14.From the D&IG, R&S, VJY, Lr.No.X2/1721/2015,dt.7-6-2018.
15.Memo No.36555/Vig.II(1)/2014-11, dated 05-10-2018.
16.Representation dated 10-12-2018 from Sri K.S.Rama Rao, Office Subordinate, O/o.RO (OB), Rajamahendravaram (now retired).
17.Government Lr.No.36555/Vig.II(2)/2014-12, dt.11-3-2019.
18.From Secretary, APPSC, Lr.No.256/DC&C/2019, dt.1-4-2019.

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O R D E R :

Whereas the District Registrar, Registrration & Stamps, Rajamahendravaram has conducted preliminary enqury into the allegations of tearing and tampering of records pertaining to the office of the Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajamahendravaram and submitted report vide reference 1st read above and indentified certain officials who worked in the above office as responsible for the above misconduct. The Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada after examining the preliminary report has initiated disciplinary proceedings against certain Charged Officers who were in service and involved in the above irregularity and in respect of retired employees proposal has been received by the Government for taking necessary action against them under Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980. In the said irregularity, Sri K.S.Rama Rao, Office Subordinate is one of the Charged Officers against whom the Deputy

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Inspector General, Regisstration & Stamps, Kakinada has initiated disciplinary action and framed the following charge against the above Charged Officer, vide reference 3rd read above :

Charge: That Sri K.S.Rama Rao, Office Subordinate, O/o.RO (OB), Rajamahendravaram (now retired) among 8 others have committed grave misconduct in as much as they have failed to safeguard and preserve the records of the office.

That on a complaint received from one Sri Addepalli Chenna Kesava, S/o.late Nageswara Rao, R/o Rajahmundry alleging that the Registrar Office, Rajahmundry issued copies of three fake documents, verification of the records was made by the Preliminary enquiry officer and the following fraudulent act was found, for which the above named official (under suspension) who is handling the records is jointly and collectively responsible.

Torn out and replacement with fake pages in Book-I:

Volume No.1247 – Pages 65 to 73 (3 sheets)
Page No.47 to 64.

Apart from the above, the relevant pages in index I & II were also torn out in order to disappearance of evidence. Verification of the D-Account Register discloses the following details with regard to movement of the relevant Volumes of Book-I:

Sl. No	Date of taking relevant volume for preparing CC	S.No. & C.No.	Doc.No. meant for CC	Volume No
1	22.03.2011	1532/11 & 1463/11	5093/74	1247
2	05.06.2013	3575/13 & 3508/13	5093/74	1247
3	05.06.2013	3576/13 & 3509/13	6088/79	1427
4	05.06.2013	3577/13 & 3510/13	6149/79	1433
5	07.06.2013	3636/13 & 3569/13	6088/79	1427
6	07.06.2013	3637/13 & 3568/13	5093/74	1247
7	10.06.2013	3662/13 & 3593/13	6149/79	1433
8	28.02.2014	232/14 & 1427/14	6149/79	1433
9	28.02.2014	233/14 & 1428/14	6088/79	1247

As per the Standing orders in vogue on the subject, as enunciated in new S.O.Nos.1112 and 1113 (i), the above named staff member (u/s) is individually and collectively responsible for the tampering and, loss or destruction of records.

2. And whereas the Charged Officer has submitted his Written Statement of Defence denying the charges, vide reference 4th read above and as the same is not convincing, the Government observing that the charge framed against the inservice and retired individuals is for the same misconduct, have ordered for common enquiry against all the Charged Officers, vide reference 5th read above and appointed the Regular Inquiry Officer to enquire in the matter, vide reference 6th read above. The Inquiry Officer has submitted the Inquiry Report against all the Charged Officers, vide reference 8th read above and in respect of Sri K.S.Rama Rao, Office Subordinate, O/o.RO (OB), Rajamahendravaram the Enquiry Authority held that the Charge framed against him as proved.

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3. Whereas the Government after examining the matter have accepted the findings of the Inquiry Authority and communicated the Inquiring Authority report to the Charged Officer vide reference 9th read above to submit his representation if any on the findings of Inquiring Authority.

4. The Charged Officer, has submitted representation, vide reference 10th read above and among other things has stated that in discharging his duties, as per the orders of his superior officers, he will enter into the record room to bring out the required register and hand over the same to the concerned dealing assistant and after the work is completed, the register will be kept in appropriate place and this process will take few minutes and it is not possible to tear out the original document and replace the same with forged document within a span of 10 minutes. Further he had no knowledge to identify the document and he cannot resort to commit said offence and it is beyond imagination to presume that because he has access to the record room, he has resorted to commit the said mis-conduct. It is true that Office Subordinate takes thumb impression of executants and claimant in the presence of concerned Joint Sub-Registrar and the Record Issue Register is always in the lock and custody of Joint Sub-Registrar-I and in his absence, the Joint Sub-Registrar-II or in-charge Joint Sub Registrar will have full control over Record Issued Register. He has finally requested the Government to consider his representation to drop further proceedings against him.

5. And whereas the Government after careful examination of the matter and keeping in view the findings of the Inquiring Authority observed that the duties of an Office Subordinate in Registration Office is to obtain the impressions of the parties on the documents presented for registration and to bring the records from the record room when required for conducting search and preparing certified copies of the documents applied for by the parties likewise, the records will be returned to the record keeper after done with. It is further observed that no Record Issue Register was maintained by the Record Keeper and therefore observed that the Charged Officer has access to the old records. The Inquiry Authority considering that the Charged Officer had access to the old records, held that the charge framed against Sri K.S.Rama Rao, Office Subordinate, O/o.RO (OB), Rajamahendravaram (now retired) as proved.

6. Whereas the Government after examining the matter and following due procedure, have imposed the penalty of stoppage of three annual grade increments with cumulative effect against Sri K.S.Rama Rao, Office Subordinate, Office of the Registrar Office, (Original Branch), Rajamahendravaram, vide reference 13th read above and requested the Director & Inspector General, Registraion & Stampa, Andhra Pradesh, and Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada to take necessary action in the matter accordingly.

7. Whereas the Director & Inspector General, Registraion & Stampa, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada has informed that Sri K.S.Rama Rao, Office Subordinate, Office of the Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajamahendravaram (now retired) had retired from service on 30-06-2017 and the penalty of stoppage of three annual grade increments with cumulative effect imposed against him, vide

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reference 13th read above could not implemented against the Charged Officer and requested the Govenrment to issue revised orders under Rule 9 of Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980, vide reference 14th read above.

8. Whereas the Government have examined the matter and observed that Sri K.S.Rama Rao, Office Subordinate, Office of the Regostrar Office (Original Branch), Rajamahendravaram (now retired) had retired from service on 30-06-2017 on superannuation, i.e., prior to the orders issued by the Government imposing the penalty of stoppage of three annual grade increments with cumulative effect, hence the punishment imposed against him could not be implemented.

9. Whereas, the Government have re-examined the case of the Charged Officer and provisionally decided to impose the penalty of 9% cut in pension permanently against Sri K.S.Rama Rao, Office Subordinate, Offic of the Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajamahendravaram (Retired) under rule 9 of Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980 for the charge held proved against him duly modiying the punishment of withholding of three annual grade increments with cumulative effect, vide reference 13th read above. Accorindgly, issued Show Cause Notice to Charged Officer with a direction to submit his representation if any, on the provisnal decision taken by the Government to impose a penalty of 9% cut in pension permanently, vide reference 15th read above. The Charged Officer has submitted representation, vide reference 16th read above re-iterating the contents earlier stated and requested to drop further action against him.

10. Government have examined the matter in detail and decided to confirm the provisional decision i.e., to impose the penalty of 9% cut in pension permanently against Sri K.S.Rama Rao, Office Subordinate, Office of the Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajamahendravaram (Retired) as he has not put forth any new grounds for consideration. The concurrence of the Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission obtained vide reference 18th read above is communicated herewith.

11. Accordingly, Government hereby order to impose a penalty of 9% cut in pension permanently against Sri K.S.Rama Rao, Office Subordinate, Office of the Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajamahendravaram (retired) for the charge held proved against him.

12. The Director and Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada shall take necessary further action in the matter, accordingly.

DR.D.SAMBASIVA RAO
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (CT, EXCISE & R&S)

To

The Individual (through the Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada with a direction to serve the order on the individual and furnish the served copy along with dated acknowledgement to Government for record).

The Director & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Eedupugallu, Vijayawada.

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The Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada.

Copy to:

The Secretary to Vigilance Commissioner, Andhra Pradesh Vigilance Commission, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi.

SF / SC.

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER